



ART CAN LIGHT THE WORLD THE VISION OF ULTRA VIOLET

by Deborah M. Colton

In life, as with the spectrum of light, Ultra Violet is something special. Like the colors of a rainbow, artist Ultra Violet's message is clear and simple: that we can all make a positive difference in the world each day. As an artist, Ultra Violet feels it is her responsibility to contribute to society through her art. She views artists as the "antenna of society" who need to present visual and conceptual solutions. Her newest creations of neon text-based work each represents one of the colors of her neon rainbows:

COURAGE FAITH HARMONY DREAM
TRUTH HEAVENLY ULTRAVIOLET

"These neon words bring LIGHT, both conceptually and aesthetically. LIGHT is essential and there is no greater embodiment of light and optimism than the rainbow. Rainbows provide a universal inspiration to many since they always come after a dark storm to reveal the beauty of a normal day. Rainbows are free, can be seen all over the world and have no social, racial or economic boundaries," she says. Ultra Violet feels that by accepting and acknowledging the dark, but overpowering it with a vision of light, that we as a society have the capacity to create universal peace and harmony by going to a higher level than the material, myopic, ethnocentric thinking that divides rather than unites people. "We can rise above this with LIGHT".



Photo courtesy of Colton & Farb Gallery, Houston

Isabelle Collin Dufresne changed her name to Ultra Violet after becoming one of Andy Warhol's most visible and unforgettable superstars of the Andy Warhol Company. Ultra Violet began her career in New York appearing in many films, including Schlesinger's *Midnight Cowboy*, Mailer's *Maid Stone*, Forman's *Taking Off* and Warhol's *I, a Man*, plus *THE LAST SUPPER*. Moving from France to New York in the late '50s, she instantly became associated with prominent artists, including Salvador Dali, Ed Ruscha, and John Chamberlain to mention a few. Ultra Violet has pursued her own art career throughout her lifetime, having exhibited in hundreds of exhibitions around the world and collected by such institutions as the Museum Pompidou (Paris) and the Knokke-Heist Museum (Belgium). Her most recent work from the 9-11 series will be featured in several exhibitions



Ultra Violet's Chelsea, NYC studio

commemorating the 10th anniversary including an exhibition at the Moscow Museum of Art and several institutions throughout New York. Ultra Violet is also the author of the international bestseller autobiography, *Famous for Fifteen Minutes: My Years with Andy Warhol*, which has been published in seventeen languages.

"LIGHT is essential. The world is pulling us in every direction, and it's easy to be pulled into chaos and darkness. Thus, we need LIGHT. I start with LIGHT in all of my work and in all ways, each waking moment each day. This philosophy has saved my life many times and has always kept me mentally and physically healthy despite much adversity. I like luminous people and luminous solutions. Happiness is LIGHT. LIGHT is enlightening and I am hoping to do a monumental project with LIGHT in this 21st Century. Watch and see..."



Photo by John Chamberlain